



A discovery of cipher manuscripts of Roger Bacon indicates that the people of that time were not unfamiliar with the use of telescopes and high-powered microscopes.

To produce the body of a murdered man in court as evidence, a Canadian Northwest Mounted Police officer "mushed" by dog team four hundred miles south to the nearest justice's court on the Slave River producing the body at the trial of the murderer who was captured deep in the northwest wilderness.

A prisoner in St. Paul, Minnesota, paid in full five victims of his forgery. Earning but twenty-five cents daily in the prison twine plant he managed to save the \$43 which he paid to ease his conscience.

An engineer and fireman on a transcontinental train left their engine recently to rescue from a burning farmhouse near Cochrane, Ontario, an invalid mother and her son. The boy jumped from the second story into their arms.

Chicago police will use wireless telephones in their war on crime. A wireless is being installed on the roof of the city hall for constant communication with fireboats, rifle squads, fire engine houses, patrol wagons and police stations. Officials hope ultimately to have every policeman equipped with receiving apparatus, weighing but a few ounces.

Owing to the shortage of coal and the manner in which the government regulates the distribution of fuel in Berlin, the hot bath has become such a luxury that many persons have ceased bathing.

The Maine blue-sky law is so strictly enforced that many companies which have no difficulty in securing licenses to offer their securities in other blue-sky states have to resort to the medium of the mails to transact business in that state.

A farmer in Saskatchewan has found clay deposits on his land from which he has been manufacturing firelighters on a small scale. The lighter is in the form of a brick. If soaked in kerosene a few minutes and ignited the brick will burn for a half hour with a steady flame and when exhausted can be replenished with kerosene and used indefinitely.

A New York magistrate sentenced a barber to five days in the workhouse for presenting a bill of \$6.15 to a customer desiring only a shave.

More than 100,000 volumes and thousands of pamphlets on the Great War have been collected by the French Government. The collection of manuscripts, photographs and war records is appalling as to numbers and a building will be erected having five miles of shelving. Princeton University and the University of California, in this country, are especially strong on war material.

As a result of many years of study, a machine has been developed in Lyon, France, to make raised embroidery in gold and silver. The stitch is a copy of an ancient form of embroidery and gives an impression of handwork. The machine uses the metallic thread.

One of the greatest butter centers in the world is Cork, Ireland. One year's export of butter amounts to nearly 750,000 tons.

A searchlight, sixty inches in diameter, will be installed on Mount Tamalpais, near San Francisco, to illuminate an amusement park on the mountain. The rays of the searchlight will pick up a battleship twelve miles at sea and is five hundred times stronger than a locomotive headlight.

During the past year the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad handled nearly sixteen million passengers, not one of whom was killed.

By ordering her milliners to use no wild bird plumage on her hats, Queen Mary has bestowed the royal approval on the movement in England for the protection of plumage birds.

A London man placed a plum pudding in a tin box embedded in a sack of lime. Tying a rope to it he lowered the sack ten feet below the surface of the Thames. When raised to the surface at the expiration of two hours the pudding was found to be cooked thoroughly. On contact with the water the lime slacked, causing sufficient heat to cook the pudding.

Phonographs operated by compressed air keep the throngs moving in the underground tubes of London. The instruments are equipped with sound amplifiers. The records last about a week and contain such messages as "Keep Moving, Please," and "Pass to the Left."

Seeds from the chaulmoogra tree of India, the oil of which forms the base of a treatment successfully used in treating leprosy, have been received in the Philippine Islands by the Bureau of Science. An attempt will be made to grow the tree for this purpose.

The prison population of the Middle and Southwestern United States decreased 12.4 per cent in the last six years. This falling off in prison population of this section is equivalent to more than the combined prisoners of Kansas, Iowa, Wisconsin and North and South Dakota in 1914.

A New York garage owner whose safe had been cracked twice improvised a shrapnel shell, consisting of a liberal charge of gunpowder and buckshot. He placed this in the cash box of the safe in such a manner that upon opening it the charge would detonate. Following a loud report the watchman found the charge exploded and blood on the floor. The burglar had escaped.

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